BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. VI June 1, 1938 No. 11

FICTION

Only One MUST BOOK In The Lot

but - we're pulling two out of the *Problematical List* for special consideration, one largely on name, the other because it has a certain timeliness, and a definite hurdle to take, so should be carefully considered.

July 5

Lofts, Norah REQUIEM FOR IDOLS Knopf

Quite different from her previous books and somewhat more in the here and now school. Oddly enough, the "frame" bears close parallel to Anthony Thorne's new book, *Fruit In Season* (see page 207 in the May 15th bulletin). In both books one sister tries to bring the family together in adult life, using the childhood home as the "drawing card." Where the Thorne story is dominated by the atmosphere of the old home, the Lofts' book makes that secondary to concentration on problems that are brought into focus by the drawing together of tenuous threads. A beautifully written but somewhat superficial story, introducing vital problems, but handling them lightly. Somehow, Miss Lofts does not succeed in divorcing herself from her characters and their problems, so that one never feels that they emerge as four individuals, but rather as problems with shadowy characterizations behind them. $2.00

July 28

Priestley, J. B. THE DOOMSDAY MEN Harper

* Grand melodrama and mystery and most unexpected from Mr. Priestley, whom we associate with the leisurely chronicle novel, rather than the fast-paced adventure story. Three men,- a young English architect, an American scientist and teacher and an artist of sorts - are drawn together in investigation of the mysterious stronghold of the MacMichael brothers, not far from Death Valley. Here is the headquarters of a strange sect, here the laboratory of the lost physicist, here the retreat of the retired multi-millionaire - and here the home of the lovely, sad daughter. A variety of strange happenings brought the three strangers together; and yet stranger adventures befell them before the grand climax. It's a well conceived tale, exceptionally well told - and makes first rate vacation reading. Though it extends our realization of Priestley's gifts, it will not add particularly to his fame in literature, but will increase his readers to include those demanding first rate entertainment. $2.50

August 4

Blake, William THE WORLD IS MINE Simon & Schuster

This is fiction - but it might be the story behind the Spanish Civil War. It is a strange book, with something of the "feel" of Briffault's *Europa* in its cross sectioning of European society, its odd blend of idealism and worldliness and sordidness and gossip mongering. It is realistic enough to make one feel that there might

well have been a character such as Don Cristobal, whose urge for revenge proved a fuse which set a world on fire. The story of a man whose childhood was colored by the ruining of his father's fortune and the gradual sinking to social depths from which the Church rescued the boy. Revenge on his father's enemies was instilled into his being; opportunism in those around him, in the Church, in banking, in business, showed him the way to achieving his end. The means were in his reach - and he boggled at nothing to acquire power and riches, easing his conscience by a determination to use that power and those riches to rescue the Spanish proletariat from ruin. Revenge was achieved. He turned to the other - and eventually perished, a victim of his own twisted thought. A provocative book - the last section dealing with the Civil War, is convincing to the emotions if not to the mind.- An original book. But it is too long, too diffuse in its grasp at many themes, not easy reading. It is a book sure to cause discussion and the author is a newcomer who bears watching. Stock it - watch it! $3.00

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS

June 20

Givens, Charles G. THE DOCTOR'S PILLS ARE STARDUST Bobbs-Merrill

As in *All Cats Are Gray*, one gets again the unexpurgated robustness of a small town. This story goes back thirty years in east Tennessee, showing a community virtually untouched by progress and education, with its special codes strongly held, forming a background for a youth as yet unformed in emotions and mentality, and unwilling to follow in the footsteps of the doctor uncle. It takes a series of events - murder, the failure of the mine, typhoid and smallpox to bring him to a realization that his place is there. Primarily a book of interest to men. $2.50

June 24

Moody, Minnie Hite OLD HOME WEEK Messner

I liked *Death Is A Little Man*. I was disappointed in *Towers with Ivy*. Now comes her third book, indicating that she can handle better than adequately her small town characters and atmosphere and that she can develop her story. She has a good theme here - the effect on the lives of one small town family of the intrusion of old home week, with its reviving of old associations and memories and its infiltration of new. If she could have kept her story on the realistic plane of *State Fair*, she would have achieved something. As it is, the temptation to involve all her characters in melodrama proves too much, and her story ends on a wrong note. There is one delightful character, the old great-grandmother who wants to sow her wild oat to celebrate her 100th birthday. In spite of its defects, it is a good yarn and thoroughly readable. $2.50

June 28

Dark, Eleanor WATERWAY Macmillan

An Australian novelist with her third novel again shows her faculty for presenting her characters at a point where the interest focuses on an immediate climax involving each one of them. Her setting is a harbor suburb of Sydney. She takes one day in the lives of a half dozen people whose threads are drawn together by the day's happenings. The book is distinct from *Sun Across the Sky*, though a few of the same characters appear. The author has a gift for slow building tension, which demands close reading. Honest in writing - sound in ideas behind it. $2.50

July 7

Lindsay, Norman AGE OF CONSENT Farrar & Rinehart

This has less humor than *The Cautious Amorist* - and little else to recommend it. The story of an artist seeking solitude on the Australian coast, and finding his private life interrupted by a bank clerk from his city boarding house, a sex-starved spinster, a drink-sodden old dame living in a neighboring hovel, and her beautiful but dumb granddaughter. Can't see the market for it. $2.50

July 11

Katz, H. W. THE FISHMANS Viking

A German exile tells in fiction form the story of his boyhood, haunted by terrors of pogroms and anti-Semitism, always in flight. He gives in flashbacks the story of his parents' background and life, his mother sole survivor of a family wiped out by a pogrom, his father and grandparents determined that sometime, somehow, their children and children's children should find freedom. Hunger, hatred, wanderings, separation, fear, poverty - ending in reunion, with the father on special furlough from the Austrian front, the mother dying in a German hovel. A dreary book, lightened by some passages of real beauty, and giving form to the Jewish heritage in Central and Eastern Europe. Not so evident in its timeliness as the Schoenstedt book, but deeper in its implications, and should appeal to somewhat the same market. $2.50

July 15

Carfrae, Elizabeth TO LOVE AND TO CHERISH Putnam

Not up to Carfrae expectations, though fairly average rental fodder...The story of a marriage, based on physical attraction and foundering on dissension over excess of ambition on the part of the wife and indifference to the social values of Harley Street on the part of the doctor husband. She is injured. They travel the road back to happiness and love. Pretty obvious. $2.00

July 18

Ruck, Berta LOVE COMES AGAIN, LATER Dodd, Mead

Lush sentimentality but good rental bet, in story of a woman in middle age setting her cap for youth, and losing him to her daughter - and of her solacing herself with a man of fitting age. $2.00

July 19

Spinelli, Marcos FROM JUNGLE ROOTS Covici, Friede

Matto Grosso (Brazil) was the background which spelt life to young Carlos and his transfer to civilization and a school in Italy caused endless homesickness for the jungle. A close friend helped him over the hurdles, but the war - and a girl - smashed that, and Paris "got" him. He returns to Brazil with some revolutionaries - after defeat he escapes to his old *fazenda* and the friends of his past. An odyssey of the contrasts between primitive and civilized life, colorful pictures of the life in Brazil, readable, but overlong. Question wide appeal. $2.50

July 19

Lucas, Audrey OLD MOTLEY Macmillan

A London Quaker family in the years 1830-40, and the family struggle for a right to live against a father's possessiveness and a sister's jealousy. Youth in revolt, caught on the rebound and unhappily married, success on the stage, and ultimate freedom to capture happiness. Sober in pace, feeling and style, but not without some interesting bits. $2.50

August 9

Eaton, Evelyn PRAY TO THE EARTH Houghton, Mifflin

A puzzling book, in that the manner seems to contradict the theme. In consciously simple, almost peasant style, the author tells the story of a boy who has known only poverty and humiliation on his father's run-down farm (presumably on the French side of the Pyrenees), and who later works for ten years as herdsman, falls in love, has his girl stolen by his best friend, shoots his friend and takes refuge in a monastery. Later he decides to give himself up, but en route he falls in with some gypsies, finds his long lost mother and sister, becomes involved in revolutionary activities in bartering with Spanish gypsies, returns to the monastery, finds his friend had not been killed - and ends up cultivating his own farm. It is unconvincing, badly balanced; there is constant abuse of coincidence in the narrative and a faked provincial build-up. $2.50

August 5

Greig, Maysie DEBUTANTE IN UNIFORM Doubleday, Doran

True to Greig - with the rocky road to happiness outlined in a story in which a strange will, a rich girl, a man of fine family down to his last penny and misunderstandings aplenty to iron out provide Maysie Greig with a plot. Rental tripe. $2.00

Yates, Dornford THE DEVIL IN SATIN Doubleday, Doran

It takes better than Mr. Yates' craftsmanship to persuade any intelligent reader to swallow this intricate story of an attempt to expose an evil woman, who is too clever to let her husband get anything on her, and who foils the attempts of investigators to prove her the rotter she is. It takes a thief to catch a thief, however, and eventually evil is shown up, and the innocent husband gains his freedom to marry the woman he loves. $2.00

MYSTERIES, WESTERNS AND THRILLERS

July 6

Mann, E. B. SHOOTIN' MELODY Morrow

Very good of its kind, in traditional Western pattern. Hero fighting mysterious rustlers and in defeating them, saving his own and the girl's ranch. $2.00

July 15

Cheyney, Peter THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS Coward, McCann

* First rate thriller with plenty of suspense - and a surprise twist for those who did not meet Caution in *Dames Don't Care*. International gangster yarn with a kidnapping plot. Plenty of shooting, double-crossing and intrigue. $2.00

July 15

Haycox, Ernest MAN IN THE SADDLE Little, Brown

Above average Western of the small rancher defying the squeeze play of the large rancher, and when pushed to the wall, resorting to gunplay to win. Eventually, he disposes of the bad man and catches a new girl for himself. $2.00

Rawson, Clayton DEATH FROM A TOP HAT: *A Merlini Mystery* Putnam

* Good entertainment, with diverting red herrings to mislead the reader. How the New York police are faced with impossibilities in the murders involving a group of magicians, escape artists, ventriloquists, mind-readers, etc. Merlini, a magician, is called in and catches the criminal, and shows that impossibilities are possible. $2.00

July 21

Morland, Nigel THE CASE WITHOUT A CLUE Farrar & Rinehart

Mrs. Pym, admittedly mellower, still packs a menace for London's world of crooks and calls out the Navy to finish off the case of the stolen galley proof, two murders and a disappearance, and ruins another hat in the process. $2.00

August 5

Davis, Frederick C. COFFINS FOR THREE Doubleday, Doran

The son of the New York Police Commissioner pits his wits against his father's in solving three murders. Pretty complicated yarn for a fairly simple solution, as he tries to keep one group of suspects out of the limelight, hide another suspect, tie up with a private detective and break the criminals' nerve. $2.00

August 7

Marsh, Ngaio ARTISTS IN CRIME Lee Furman

A Roderick Alleyn story, in Peter Wimsey vein. First rate yarn, with unusual set-up in murder of artist model in view of whole class, everyone of whom is suspect, and most of whom had the opportunity. Clues point hither and yon, but most of them to one man - who is found murdered also. There's a romance throughout - and good background stuff. A sloppy piece of editing and proof-reading keep it out of the top class. $2.00

NON-FICTION

Two Titles For Special Notice

No *Must Books* - in the sense of their being readymade for everyone's market, but there are two titles that stand out for special sales and an opportunity to build into best sellers, with your backing.

June 28

Armstrong, Margaret FANNY KEMBLE: *A Passionate Victorian* Macmillan

* The February 1st issue carried a report of this title, then scheduled for April publication, as follows: "Biography covering 83 years of Fanny Kemble's life. Though reared in a theatrical atmosphere, it was only her father's failure with Covent Garden that precipitated her going on the stage. Her first role was Juliet, when she was seventeen; at nineteen she was the toast of England, repeated her success in America, and then married disastrously, Pierce Butler, vacillating, unfaithful slave owner. Her divorce - her fame as a Shakespearean reader - and the sensation caused by her writings kept her a storm center for years. Interesting material, skillfully handled, and mirroring the theatre in England and America in the '30's and '40's, against a social and economic background of the period, and giving a new angle on the slave question and the Civil War and so on. Varied in interests and good reading." - (Book-of-the-Month for July) $3.00

July 1

Nichols, Beverly NEWS OF ENGLAND Doubleday, Doran
or *A Country Without A Hero*

* *Cry Havoc* revealed a new angle of Beverly Nichols, pacifist, and presented a cogent case. Now comes *News of England*, a stirring plea for England to wake up to her own disintegration, a recognition of the changed face of the world, and an acceptance of the responsibility of all, pacifists included, to do something about the state of the world before it is too late. It is as gloomy a picture of England as has been shown. He outlines the changes ten years have made in social, economic and political life. He acknowledges the failure of the League. He bewails the apathy in defence measures, in aviation, in preparedness. He confronts his readers with an indictment of the reflection of a nation in its architecture, in its morale, in its view of historical monuments and places of beauty. He reviles the growth of drunkenness, of gambling; the decline of religion and its causes; the perverted humor; the brand of Communism; the weakness of educational centers to take the lead; the vulgarity of the rich. He presents - as relief - a few bright spots, - a dressmaker, a dancer, the English ballet, the British police force. He analyzes unemployment, and the experiments at Lincoln and elsewhere. And he reluctantly accepts the fact, as he sees it, of some form of fascism as the answer and Sir Oswald Mosley as the only man of stature for leadership. It is a challenging book, a terrifying book. He is contradictory - fanatical - lop-sided in judgment; but he makes his points and his case is well taken. How seriously he is accepted as critic or analyst I don't know. But his book is sympathetic, and cannot be ignored. $2.50

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS

June 20

Fortune - *Editors of* THE ACCIDENT OF BIRTH Farrar & Rinehart

Birth control, in the accepted concise, accurate and frequently dramatic treatment which this periodical stands for. An everyday issue and industry, grown

from small proportions to large, and now exploiting a tremendous percentage of the country from angle of health and money. The charges for products, a majority of them unsound, is many times the value. Who are the main tycoons - what are their profits - how much of it is fraudulent, etc. Stresses need for government legislation and control.- $ .75

June 21

Russell, Bertrand - and others DARE WE LOOK AHEAD? Macmillan

Six essays, delivered as lectures before the Fabian Society by outstanding, if somewhat "foot-off-the-ground" people. Russell's own contribution on science and its effects on human beliefs is glib and inconclusive. Bartlett's *War Horizon* is dated by the very prophecy he makes, that Hitler will make no move toward Austria or Czechoslovakia. Laski writes on the *Outlook for Civil Liberties*, Cripps on *Political Reactions of Rearmament*, Morrison on *Socialism Today* (a bit of wishful thinking). The soundest contribution is Cole's brilliant discussion of the economic consequences of war preparations, - temporary boom, damaging in long run. Cannot see wide sale for volume over here, as it is distinctly concerned with the British and Continental relations. $2.00

June 23

Post, Langdon W. THE CHALLENGE OF HOUSING Farrar & Rinehart

"A human book on housing" written out of the author's experience as Tenement House Commissioner and Chairman of the Housing Authority in New York City. He builds up an indictment of government and industry to provide decent and adequate shelter, showing how unsound economically has been the policy of industry and the lack of law enforcement. The book concerns itself with urban and primarily multiple family housing, and largely with public and subsidized housing. Within these limits it is comprehensible, realistic, challenging. He despairs of results from private enterprise and concludes with a provocative solution that housing be regarded as a public utility in the direction of large-scale rental, investment developments, more or less regulated by government. The only alternative is a trend to the left, government ownership and control. Written in lucid style readily understood by the laymen, but based on thorough knowledge of the practical, historical and technical aspects of the subject. Of vital interest to social workers interested in housing problems, and to anyone whose concern is directly or indirectly involved with the problem. Illustrated with photographs and maps. $4.00

Late June

Whipple, James HOW TO WRITE FOR RADIO Whittlesey House

An excellent text book for anyone teaching writing courses tied up with radio, for anyone interested in trying out for radio work from the writing angle - but not a book for those looking for technical information. Deals wholly and solely - and very comprehensively with the script end, with dramatizations, condensations, skits, commentary, etc. etc. Examples analyzed and discussed. Treatment and viewpoint and method - all from an authentic and practical angle. A book that should be a guide for radio directors in planning programs, as well as for contributors. $3.50

July 1

Rodman, Selden, editor A NEW ANTHOLOGY OF MODERN POETRY Random House

An interesting compilation, the first to present a well-rounded view of today's poetic trend. The editor, a contributor and defender of the contemporary social-symbolic school, inclines toward selection of material for its social implications rather than its poetic aspects. From this angle it is a satisfactory collection. Part one deals with forerunners of the moderns, Hardy, De La Mare, Masefield, etc. Part two traces the evolution in the direction of a poetry imbued with ideals of the rights of the people, and includes such poets as Frost, Sandburg, Markham, Robinson, Masters and some Negro spirituals. Part three shows the beginning of symbolism, as inaugurated by Pound, MacLeish, Eliot, Crane, etc. Part four shows the merging of social conflict with the technique of the symbolists to form a vigorous new school, and in this last group are MacNeice, C. Day Lewis, Spender, Auden, Rukeyser, etc. There are a few inclusions in lighter vein, Dorothy Parker, Ogden Nash, Guiterman - but they are few and far between. - The critical commentary and historical background are in the editorial introductions; biographical notes at the end. *A Literary Guild book.* $3.00

July 5

Sullivan, Mary MY DOUBLE LIFE Farrar & Rinehart
The Story of a New York Policewoman

As head of the policewomen's bureau for twelve years and a member of the force since 1911, the author tells a story which supplements from the women's angle previous books of its type by men. She tells how she came to choose this career, her early training and experience, and the steps leading to her present job. She discusses the fields where women are used and the constructive work they do. Interesting reading, with a vocational slant, and a unique human document. Sell to those who like unusual women biographies, to civic groups, to social service workers. $2.50

July 15

Lindley, Betty & Ernest K. A NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH Viking

A revealing account of the work undertaken and the achievement of the National Youth Administration. Through a study of its aims, through reports of research into projects the country over, through case histories and interviews and letters from young people who have benefitted by it, the authors build up the picture. So little is known generally that this should be an important contribution to a better understanding of the constructive part government is playing in building youth morale and laying better foundations for the future. The educational aspects - keeping boys and girls in school and college at a much lower cost than sustaining an increased unemployment roll, supplying work, - projects, and so on. The history of employment following the experience and training is heartening. Should be an essential book for anyone interested in the problem of youth today. $3.00

~~July 12~~ ~~August 1~~ Sept 8

Fuller, R. Buckminster NINE CHAINS TO THE MOON Lippincott

Is it a confession of a natural inaptitude for matters scientific or just plan dumbness that forces me to disclose the fact that *Nine Chains To The Moon* left me puzzled, confused and doubting? Whatever the reason, I must acknowledge that I cannot give a fair appraisal of the book. When the author is discussing tangibles such as Henry Ford's place in the scheme of things, I can follow him (albeit it not agree with him). When he goes into the matter of the energy dollar, I find my

imagination racing - and my reason combatting the picture drawn. I get a certain kick out of his debunking some of mankind's pet theories, economic, social, factual; but I can't bear the thought of as mechanized and hyper-simplified a life as he prophesies. BUT there are vast areas where I cannot follow him, where mathematical and physical abstractions leave me floundering, where meaning is lost - for me - in a thicket of verbiage. Have a look for yourself. It is an adventure in thought - and it is a bit of mental gymnastics. For description, see publisher's catalogue.

~~$3.00~~
4—

July ??

Brasol, Boris OSCAR WILDE: *The Man, The Artist, The Martyr* Scribner

This is for the most part a level-headed, fair and comprehensive biography of the Victorian *enfant terrible*, with a thorough and stimulating appraisal of his work. Vain egomaniac, pagan amoralist, brilliant wit and poseur - a tragic history, frequently misrepresented. His early life, inheritance, schooling, Hellenic leanings, the unfortunate trip to America, his marriage, literary development - and the last ten years of his life which saw his greatest output and complete moral degeneration culminating in the famous trial. There is no attempt to deny these facets of his character, but the unwarranted libels are refuted or given their proper place... Excellent study of the literary background, which comprises about half the book. Not a book for those seeking a sensational exposé, but a scholarly, unbiassed and comprehensive piece of work. $3.50

~~August 2~~ Oct 25

Frothingham, Eugenia B. YOUTH AND I Houghton, Mifflin

The daughter of one of Boston's oldest families speaks reminiscently of her early youth in the '90's, of her years abroad, Paris, Rome, the Riviera. There is nothing of importance to tell; it is simply a portrait of a way of life, of the upbringing of young ladies of fashion in that era. She and her sister were musical - there is that side of their lives. There are parties, teas, the famous people they met. Written with a good deal of effusion, "exaltations and dismays," "excessive sensations," since "life was that way." She gets overly enthusiastic over little things that seem of minor interest today. Chance for the market of *Julia Newberry's Diary* rather than the more literary market of *Roman Spring* or *This Life I Loved*. It is on the "quaint" side. $2.00

Sept 6

Rak, Mary Kidder BORDER PATROL Houghton, Mifflin

First rate Americana - and background for modern Westerns, in factual accounts of the patrol along the Mexican border. Good human interest material, an anecdotal treatment of the men and their experiences, of the problems they face, of adventure and narrow escapes. Somewhat episodic in treatment, which gives an impression of choppiness, but in the last analysis, the facts fall into place and the picture emerges. $2.75

Williams, Valentine WORLD OF ACTION ~~9.27~~ Houghton, Mifflin

* Here is a fascinating autobiography of an English newspaper man and novelist, and it brings one up with a start and the realization that most of the flood of journalistic autobiographies have been American. This is quite distinctive. It makes one feel that jouranlism, from the English angle, presupposes that the foreign cor-

respondent is virtually a diplomat, representing his country in other countries. *The World of Action* reads more like a diplomat's story than a correspondent's. Williams went to Berlin at 21; five years later he became Paris correspondent of the Daily Mail, and subsequently visited most of the European capitals. War experiences as a soldier; recent years as a novelist; always a "collector" of people, and he gives us a vast canvas. An urbane, vivid, colorful - and discreet - autobiography. $3.00

August 2

Strachey, John WHAT ARE WE TO DO? Random House

This was scheduled for Spring publication and reported on March 1, as follows:- "A vitally important book for the labor interests of this country. Strachey has analyzed the problem before labor, traced the history in broad terms in this country, more specifically in England, has indicated the inevitable trends and shown the ways in which British labor has made mistakes which American labor can avoid. He then outlines a series of propositions for a sound program, which acknowledge that labor movements are incompatible with existing capitalism, and must accept scientific socialism -- or fail, it must succeed in the struggle against the conditions of life imposed by capitalism or be destroyed by them. They must prosecute or abandon. There is no middle way." $3.00

August 11

Lippincott, Joseph W. ANIMAL NEIGHBORS OF THE COUNTRYSIDE Lippincott

Nice reading, though not as humorous as, for instance, *Backyard Zoo*. Deals with ordinary animals such as might be found in any countryside in the east, - rabbits, squirrels, mice, snakes, moles, shrews, deer-birds, animals and water creatures. Based on personal experiences, and, for the most part, dealing with neither pets nor pests, and with hunting only as far as possum hunts and others of that kind. He does share some experiences with bears and claims to have had an inning with an alligator (escaped or put out to fend for itself, in the Pennsylvania countryside). A book which should have a good plus sale with teen age boys and girls. Illustrated. $2.50

~~Mid~~ August 15

Thompson, Dorothy DOROTHY THOMPSON'S POLITICAL GUIDE Stackpole

* This will sell. The famous woman correspondent and columnist has built up a devoted following and they are the sure market for a slim book which presents the outline of her political creed, her definitions of modern political terminology, her views on the international situation, in broad terms, rather than specific ones, her ideals of true liberalism and the aims towards which we should turn, her angle on women's responsibility. She has not yielded to the temptation to become personal, but the implications are there, that "he who runs may read." The book lacks the punch that made Hamilton Fish Armstrong's *We Or They?* a universal challenge, but it helps formulate generalizations that many are groping towards. It is unfortunate that it is given a title that seems trite and vaguely reminiscent of "David Goes to Greenland" and others of its ilk. Perhaps it will be changed. A good book for plus sales. Watch it! $1.25

Received Too Late For Report In Earlier Bulletins

Published

Stong, Phil COUNTRY FAIR Stackpole

An American institution given its due in 80 stunning photographs and a text that is warmly human and friendly and humorous. Josephine von Miklos has contributed most of the photographs. The balance came from a nation-wide contest for county fair photographs, with the result that subjects are drawn from Fairs the country over. This is another contribution to the "back to the soil" movement, and should be sold along with *R. F. D.*, *I Farmed for a Hobby*, etc. It is all here, - the people, the animals, the freaks, the excitement, the entertainment, the sounds and the smells (or so it seems!) $2.00

Buxton, Henry ASSIGNMENT DOWN EAST Stephen Daye

A reporter on the Bangor Daily News has collected his many interviews with Maine people and presents their stories of past events and life histories. He covers shopkeepers and traders, sailors, bachelors, hunters, trappers, woodsmen, musicians, doctors, treasure hunters, shipbuilders, Indians, goldseekers; he tells of old romances, of women that traveled with seafaring husbands around the world, storms, strange expeditions and he gives a human interest picture of an individual type of people. Good enough reading of its kind - though it seems not quite as salty as the reputation of the people of whom he writes. Illustrated with photographs. $3.00

Roberts, Glyn THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE WORLD Covici, Friede

It is a good story, this intricate, involved and occasionally confusing story of the rise of a penniless Dutch boy to international power. There is a certain lack of organization in the material, and profuse detail about mergers, intrigues, etc. His throttle hold over oil, after a long struggle against Standard Oil, is second to none, and has enabled him to control the world's purse strings and the world's will to war. A great deal of the material is important as a survey of the growth of the oil business, since Deterding was in at the start. A great deal of it is too detailed for popular appeal as a pure "success story." But it seems authentic and is written with gusto and pace. $3.00

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE

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BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

June 1, 1938 SPORTING BOOK SUPPLEMENT Vol. VI No. 11

Edited by Gene Simmonds

There are comparatively few sporting books this Spring and they are fairly late appearing so it means, with times not so good, you will have to make an extra effort to sell them. Remember that sporting books are tops as week-end, wedding, graduation or thank-you-for-anything presents, also some will got out of print before birthdays or Christmas, so it's wise to suggest getting them now and putting them away. Circulars may not have pulled but personal work will. Telephone, write notes or take the books to your regular customers, especially men who usually collect or give them, because the list is a corking one, adaptable to every taste and whim--and the sportsman hasn't been born who can resist books of this calibre if they see them. Remember, too, it is the salesperson's job to show and sell-the customer only weakens and buys.

Allen, Forrest C. BETTER BASKETBALL Whittlesey House

Unfortunately this book arrived too late for the Winter Sporting Bulletin but camps open in June and you will want to tell coaches and players of local teams about it so they can take it to camp to use and study. Basketball has improved so it is almost a new game today. This book not only proves that but is full of excellent suggestions for improvement of the game, coaching and care of the team. The game is analysed, offensive and defensive plays given, diagrams give detailed instruction, first aid treatment with special attention paid to injuries the coach should report to the doctor. For this section particularly the book would be valuable at camp. Illustrated. $4.00

Annabel, Russell TALES OF A BIG GAME GUIDE Derrydale

Tall tales of tall ranges. Good reading for any man, for he'll find his sport, be it fishing, riding, camping, good jokes, fine sportsmanship and hardy company sandwiched in between the big game hunting. Annabel is a guide who certainly knows his trails and game, but far more important he knows what few others do--how to tell a grand story. Brought up in the big game country of Alaska he learned from bitter experience why Tex had wisely refused to let him puruse precocious rams up mountain peaks in winter, how to stalk grizzlies, to manage horses in spring drifts, to bring out heads with 69 inch spreads, and with delicious humor teach adventurous grizzlies a lesson. There are caribou, too, although he makes their hunting sound a bit too easy-dude-ranchey after the he-man stuff which characterizes his usual trips. It is a book to whet the appetite of any man or woman who has ever longed to stalk big game. Africa is a long way safely out of reach. But Alaska - by plane? Well, maybe, if times pick up before they're too old for such strenuous adventure. Meanwhile for $7.50 Annabel as guide and all Alaska lies before them. Suggest it as the best possible vacation to take in one's den. Illustrated with photographs. 950 copies - $7.50

Arms, Dorothy Noyes FISHING MEMORIES Macmillan

* Most people can easily picture the Arms, D. N. and husband J. T., bicycling through the Cathedral towns of France or England but we'll wager everyone, will be so surprised they'll buy the book, when told that Dorothy Noyes Arms has written her fishing memories. Fishermen are accepted but fisherwomen again bring to mind French fishing villages rather than the authoress in her daring walking skirt six inches from the ground! and her stout (?) boots -- high buttoned shoes with rubbers -- sloshing through muddy Maine woods on her wedding trip long before the days of slacks and waders for the fair sex. It is a delightful tale that will interest and encourage women anglers and it gives men the chance of a lifetime to fish with a woman who can camp, cast and compete with the best of 'em. It has Arms' charm galore. ~~(6 - 21)~~ $3.00

Back, Howard THE WATERS OF THE YELLOWSTONE Dodd, Mead

To those who plan trips in the Yellowstone to fish this will certainly be a boon, to those who were going but had not thought of the fishing angle it will be a brilliant suggestion, an irresistible temptation. For here is an angler who knows the best waters in the world. -- Scotland, Austria, Canada, Maine -- telling us that the Yellowstone is unsurpassed. The fish, the lakes, the rivers, routes and camps are all delightfully covered so that a week, a month or four months could easily and advantageously be spent. There are also nice bits of information on the life and lot of the Ranger, the valiant keeps of the Park, on the wild life customs and rules of the Park and with it all a deep appreciation of the good things Nature provides. Plus sale for California bookshops. $2.00

Barrett, J.L.M., Major PRACTICAL JUMPING AND SCHOOLING Scribner

* It is good to have Major Barrett's book available in this country again. It has been entirely rewritten and is as extremely practical as its title claims it to be. So valuable a contribution on the subject is this considered by sporting shops that several imported copies were on hand for the fall and Christmas season. With the depression a new era arrived as far as schooling horses was concerned. Trainers, grooms and stable boys had to be foregone in many stables; owners had to care for their mounts or give them up. So that today one finds an eager public asking for all the expert information available on jumping and schooling. Girls and boys who rode only for fun and fashion are teaching riding, training and breeding fine horses, running their own stables and those of schools, clubs and friends. It was a necessity, yes, but a life they know and love, and they mean to be intelligent and well informed. Find out the names of the trainers in your own community, the private schools that teach riding, the riding schools and clubs, the hunt clubs. Get local horse shows programs. All these people will form the market for this book which not only gives the fine English system but compares it with various other schools. $5.00

Brown, Kenneth THE MEDCHESTER CLUB Derrydale

* For several years there has been a crying need for this type of book, on the Derrydale list -- now we've got it -- the wait was worth it. Horses, Horses Horses. We want more David Grays and Gordon Grands -- well, you've got Kenneth Brown now so up and after the customers who enjoyed *The Silver Horn*. Believe it or not, there's golf in it, too. For golfers have been slighted in the sporting story line and they've set up a howl. So here they are all fixed up with some rattling good golfing yarns. The illustrations by W. Smithson Broadhead, wash drawings reproduced

in colotype, add immeasurably to its charm. There is a corking sense of humor and appreciation of the ridiculous throughout--I'm still sore from laughing over *Hee-Haw Hee-Haw*. The sight of a mule will always mean "Alexander Hamilton" to me. Virginia, India, New York, this wide range gives additional entertainment reminiscent of Snaffles, Edwards and the English books which always throw in a bit of pig-sticking or polo for the Colonials' enjoyment and a wider sale. The same will be true of these stories for Yankees or Southerners, men, women and children who love the chase, huntin' or steeplechasin' or following the elusive little white ball. They're everybody's stories, they're swell! 950 copies - $7.50

Calahan, H. A. GADGETS AND WRINKLES Macmillan

A compendium of man's ingenuity at sea is an excellent description of this book, for the gadget it doesn't suggest just isn't needed. For years man has devised various things to make life at sea smoother. Yachts, cat-boats and canoes each year have sported new refinements, things other boat owners wanted on their boat, too. Well, here they are--enough to sink an ocean liner if you get too ambitious and try them all for they vary from ways to keep a dry seat on a wet deck to wiring systems that illuminate the ice box or what-have-you. With the season upon us this is the moment to launch your new Calahan, play up the washable covers and the hundred and one improvements they can make on their boat and the valuable hints it will give them to add to their comfort. $3.00

Hatch, Alden & Keene, Foxhall FULL TILT: THE SPORTING MEMOIRS OF FOXHALL KEENE Derrydale

* You'll read *Full Tilt* and sell it full tilt. For it is Keene material--sparkling enthusiasm, sportsmanship, energy and brilliance. They're all true to form. Probably no sportsman has, or will, capture the imagination of his public at home or abroad as Foxhall Keene, glamour sportsman, ace of all he tried--golf, tennis, boxing, auto racing, polo, shooting, hunting, racing, it made no difference--he was a super star. Read a page and you can't put it down. The biographical sketch of his father, James R. Keene, is fascinating, as is the picture he paints of life during the gold rush days, Wall Street in the eighties, the less sporting side of life on the Street as Kings of Finance fought to dethrone each other, the early days days of the Castleton Stud, then the crash, the comeback and the founding of the greater Castleton Stud, greater horses, greater sport, greater triumphs, the world the stage for one of the greatest shows any sportsman ever produced. Don't let any customer fail to get one for his horsey host and to buy one for himself from his track winnings. This is a book that every American sportsman should proudly own for it definitely has a place at the top of American Sporting Annals. Illustrated with photographs and drawings. 950 copies $10.00

Hitchcock, F. C., Capt. TO HORSE Scribner

* Any shop handling books on equitation has sold *Saddle Up* (or missed a winner) and know what an excellent horseman wrote it. In *To Horse* Captain Hitchcock goes on, as it were, from where *Saddle Up* left off; and what a thorough job he has made of it! From head to tail he covers the horse--points to look for and faulty conformation to avoid, signs that would indicate disease or trouble brewing, then excellent information on the evolution of the thoroughbred, how to identify them, to make out the pedigree, interesting facts and stories about the General Stud Book, Stable Management, Equitation, hands and seat, aids, training and care with an index

to the general run of diseases. On fairly careful reading he doesn't seem to have omitted a question that might arise in buying, judging, training, conditioning or riding a horse. The book is written for the English but with few changes is entirely applicable to the States. The exclusively British portions are particularly acceptable, containing as they do information on the Institute of the Horse and Pony Club, the examination for instructor's certificates, tricks in training, racing, etc., the very things many Americans go to England to discover. I cannot think of a better handbook for study, reference or informative reading by individuals or for schools where riding courses are given. You'll find it exactly what the Equitation Shelf has long been needing when a customer wants a book to cover everything. $4.50

Howe, James THE AMATEUR GUNCRAFTSMAN Funk & Wagnalls

Any little boy loves to putter with tools and guns and any man who shoots remains a little boy forever in this respect. Here is a book that will keep them quiet for hours in the workshop, Mr. Howe arranges for them. He gives suggestions for the work bench, tools they'll need, starts them on various lines of investigation, turns on their imagination so they are all set to go ahead inventing new gadgets and refining others. There's plenty of valuable information but he never takes away the fun of letting them become guncraftsmen themselves. For camps, for schools, for workshops, for boys from 8 to 80. $3.75

Priestley, Mary, editor A BOOK OF BIRDS Macmillan

The outgrowth of a personal scrapbook. A book that grew of its own accord and is accordingly more fun, more natural, more spontaneous than most. It is composed of excerpts from the writings of poets, explorers, naturalists, novelists and just plain men and women who have loved birds and observed them. This makes for a delightful diversity of style as well as subject matter--tropical birds flutter across the scene followed by Antarctic species, humming birds vie with eagles, woodcock with nightingales, their habitats, habits, amusing incidents, unusual observations all crowd in to make this one of the most original gift books imaginable. The illustrations are by C. F. Runnicliffe who has done a grand job with 82 wood engravings. An ideal vacation book. $2.50

Spiller, Burton L. MORE GROUSE FEATHERS Derrydale

* There's a market ready made for Volume II of any successful book. No one who bought *Grouse Feathers* will want to miss *More Grouse Feathers*, so first see that everyone to whom you sold *Grouse Feathers* is supplied. Then start on the uninitiated who still have a treat in store for them. Grouse, their ways, stories about them, watching them, shooting them--from beginning to end with the dogs and characters and Lynn Bogue Hunt's grand illustrations it's Grouse, Grouse, Grouse and more Grouse for the northern woodlands are full of them and the shooting company is equally full of grouse addicts who'll listen forever to Burton Spiller and his yarns.

950 copies - $10.00

Walden, Howard T., 2nd UPSTREAM AND DOWN Derrydale

* The success of this little book will be assured if every salesperson will read it, for it passes with flying colors the true test of a good angling collection, i.e., it makes the non-angler feel the charm of the sport so fordibly he realizes he has missed something by not fishing. I belong to that unfortunate society who looked upon it as a boring pastime which enforced silence, but as I read I became more and more fascinated until I was simply enthralled in following Mr. Walden upstream and down, learning, chuckling, casting and being contentedly quiet. But the converts will be few compared with all the seasoned anglers who'll swallow it hook, line and sinker. It has the philosophy of Walton, the charm of Van Dyke and the humor of John Taintor Foote combined with a style delightfully distinctive--Waldenian--it's different.

950 copies - $10.00

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

June 1, 1938 Vol. VI No.11

RELIGIOUS BOOK SUPPLEMENT

Edited by Gene Simmonds

In slack periods you have a chance to build up good will and plus sales and to secure a good book-buying public through creating confidence in your special value to them in recommending religious books, on which information is usually inadequate in bookshops. Don't set the religious books aside as simply out of your ken. Use the Religious Book Supplements systematically. It will pay you.

This is a formidable list for a post-lenten crop but in reality it is an excellent time for really important books to appear. The average clergyman, layman or student has more time during the summer than any other season. Send a list to them with a note to the effect that there is an embarrassment of riches, for no well read cleric or layman can afford to miss the Berdyaev, Maritain, Lowrie or Kraemer. Go to it! It is without question the most important and distinguished list we've reported.

Alington, C. A. A NEW APPROACH TO THE OLD TESTAMENT Harper

* We have needed such a book for a long time. Books on the Old Testament are numerous and notoriously difficult to recommend to the average customer. They are apt to be too deep, too conservative, too orthodox, too old, too big, too expensive. Here is one any shop can proudly endorse. It does not claim to be original yet it is fresh and honest and will provide a new approach for any earnest reader. Through the eyes of the prophets the Old Testament comes to life and meaning penetrates its most difficult books. Add this to the list of staple religious stock and mention it to laymen and clergy. Schools will find it an excellent text to use along with Bible Study courses. $1.75

Aquinas MEDITATIONS FOR LENT FROM ST. THOMAS Sheed & Ward

While this title seems to date its sale there is no reason to limit it. As a book of meditations it is entirely applicable to any season. These excerpts are carefully chosen and give us St. Thomas at his best, an excellent introduction to the great mystic, a delightful summary for his many friends. $1.50

Atkins, Gaius Glenn RESOURCES FOR LIVING: A PLAIN MAN'S PHILOSOPHY Harper

An *Orchids on Your Budget* for the more serious; A *Man the Unknown* for the less serious. A book for the thoughtful plain man seeking a way of life in a world that requires more resources than the average man knows how to dig up for himself. It is a dark horse because the market is so overrun with self-help and pseudo-philosophical books, yet Atkins is well known, the book is well done and will be well advertised so it will bear careful watching. Its title tells the story for it takes practically every phase of modern life and helps us to get the most out of it. In many difficult problems the author throws a keen and penetrating light. It is clever enough to appeal to the subtle, to be helpful to the dull. $2.50

Bailey, Albert Edward ART AND CHARACTER Abingdon Press

Religious art and its teaching power is an accepted fact today. Here Dr. Bailey indexes 1700 pictures, sacred and secular, which may be nsed to arouse emotions which he ably explains and discusses. The fruits of indulgence, the joy of forgiveness, the teachings on Heaven, Hell and the Resurrection are all illustrated in picture, explained in theology and applied to social and individual needs. $3.25

Berdyaev, Nicolas THE ORIGIN OF RUSSIAN COMMUNISM Scribner

If this were written by almost anyone else we might toss this book aside. People are fed up with Russia and books on it, yet many of the most intelligent men of our time say glibly we are headed for Russia's plight. Perhaps we are, but it is necessary to know the origin and causes that contributed to that plight before we can view our own situation, study our trends and do anything about our future. Berdyaev writes simply and well with a gift for clarifying the most subtle and intricate subjects so that the book provides excellent reading, as enchanting as it is enlightening. One is led step by step through a perfect maze of Russian history, her politics, her ecclesiastical affairs, her enthusiasms and faiths, a fascinating conglomeration of East and West, Pagan and Christian. $3.00

Browne-Olf, Lillian PIUS XI Macmillan

As time rolls by Protestants and Catholics speak more and more of The Pope as one of the greatest figures of our times. Here is a warm and charming biography of the amazing man who wields such quiet but definite power over the restless European situation. The picture of him as a boy who loved activity and sport explains the tremendous fortitude with which he has withstood illness and suffering in his old age. His love of the outdoors and study explain the premium he has always put on quietude and peace. Admirers of Pius the XI know no creedal boundaries, his appeal is universal, Catholic in its true sense. $2.50

Chambers, Oswald IF YE SHALL ASK Dodd Mead

For many years Oswald Chambers has been a popular and prolific writer. A few years ago Chamber's *Golden Book* became extremely popular in England and later the Oxford Group brought it to this country where it was also most successful. It touched a large public that will also buy this book on prayer for it has the same simplicity, the same spirit of reality, the same challenging faith. Draw to the attention of the clergy and religious trade, those going to summer conference such Northfield, Silver Bay and church conferences, as well as Oxford Groupers, $1.25

Cornish, Gerald Warre ST. PAUL FROM THE TRENCHES Houghton, Mifflin

Rendered from the trenches mudstained and worn there is still an amazing freshness and originality to this manuscript. A scholar's work with a touch of real genius making the reader doubly conscious of the toll of war. The author may well take his place with that valiant band whose passing left the world of letters, and life itself, the poorer. A band in which we are constantly discovering new names to add to those of Rupert Brook, Donald Hankey, and deferred casualties such as Studdert Kennedy. St. Paul is difficult, and this interpretation makes us ask for more. After twenty years it stands the test. It is applicable and helpful. We only wish he

might have been spared to complete his Greek New Testament instead of stopping with *Corinthians* and *Ephesians*. For clergy, and laymen, and especially for youths in schools and colleges. $1.35

Gilkey, James Gordon THE PROBLEM OF FOLLOWING JESUS Macmillan

Can one follow if one really tries? Many people are of the opinion that Christianity has not been tried and found wanting -- rather that it has never been tried. In this book Dr. Gilkey speaks to those who would follow Jesus, of the barriers they must surmount. As this country's outstanding conference preacher and student adviser he know from the lips of thousands who come to him for interviews precisely what these obstacles are. Therefore it is a practical book of concrete problems equally practical, sound answers and directions for following the road toward the goal. As it will not be published until *September 21st* uou have plenty of time to do a nice advance order job on it. Begin now to mention it and see how many orders you can take in your shop and at conferences. $1.50

Heenan, John Carmel, D.D. PRIEST AND PENITENT Sheed & Ward

Here is a rare opportunity for Catholic or Protestant laymen. A chance to see and sit on the priest's side of the grating in the confesional box, to understand his part, to learn his training, to discover that he has been tutored in philosophy and made to study human sin until nothing shocks, surprises or disgusts him. He is able to hear confessions with deep humility, administer absolution and give penance as he believes God would. There are excellent chapters in the second half of the book on the penitent -- clear, helpful suggestions on how to plan and give one's confession. Certainly a *must* for Catholic laymen as well as theologians, a book from which the Oxford Groupers might learn and profit. It might be worth suggesting to them. $2.00

Inge, William Ralph, ed. FREEDOM, LOVE AND TRUTH Hale, Cushman & Flint

Beginning with the need of religion through a logical sequence of chapters on God, Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit, the problems with which the Christians' path is fraught on to Journey's End and a chapter of selections for special days, this anthology makes its way. Dean Inge has carefully selected his material with a sense of the importance of his talk, bringing into this one volume the best work of the greatest poets, writers, philosophers, theologians and mystics of all time from St. Augustine to the moderns. Many of your customers who would not ordinarily buy an anthology will want this to add to their collection of Dean Inge's attainment. $1.50

Kraemer, Hendrik THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE IN A NON-CHRISTIAN WORLD Harper

This book is to be the basis for discussion when the International Missionary Council meets in Madras in December '38 to discuss the evangelistic program of the church. This function of witness-bearing has been abused, over-used and in far too many instances never used, so, as the Church's fundamental mission, this council is touching an all important problem. Because of the world-wide scope it is a subject with great and complex phases affected by international, national, racial and religious factors. While Dr. Kraemer is very humble over the tremendous task assigned him he has certainly proven himself extremely able and adequate. Gifted as many Hollanders are with amazing spiritual perception which makes him a

sound theologian, he has also shared in the active life of the great University of Leyden. One feels its solidity and mellow age the moment one steps inside its portals. It is essentially a place of learning yet its wisdom is keenly in touch with life. Where else would one find the drawings of famous students on the walls of the main stairway, a winding affair not three feet wide? Leyden is unique and there Holland sent her future queen to be educated, for it was ideally equipped to give her an impartial knowledge of her world. This same background supplemented by years of teaching and mission work has been Dr. Kraemer's. Heartily endorsed by the Archbishop of York. $3.00

Laros, Mathias CONFIRMATION IN THE MODERN WORLD Sheed & Ward

A plea for confirmation and an explanation of the sacrament -- its power and responsibility -- an appeal for mature Christians and a "grown-up" laity that will see and accept their place in the life of the church. A book no Catholic (Roman or Anglo-) can fail to find helpful and enlightening whether they receive it as a confirmation gift or get it to give to a priest or layman. To those who feel the Catholic Church dominates a blind laity this book will be an eye-opener. The present Pope has stood for the common priesthood and led the way by his own extremely democratic actions urging in the advance of Catholic action the Catholic laymen to think, worship, work and lead shoulder to shoulder with their priests. The modern world in all its need is laid bare and the cure, spiritual rebirth through the action of the Holy Spirit, presented with power. $2.00

Latourette, Kenneth Scott THE THOUSAND YEARS OF UNCERTAINTY A.D. 500 to 1500 Harper

* Volume II of the proposed six volume history of the expansion of Christianity certainly measures up to Volume I. It is written with the same easy fluency,, it reads smoothly, holding the reader's attention and arousing his curiosity. He wants to know what happened next -- a recommendation indeed for a book as scholarly and complete as this. Even the jacket is so attractively gotten up it will make a grand display or window. Begin now to take orders for the set. Fill in Volume I and use the card enclosed in the book for orders for the remaining four volumes. Every student or clergyman should have the set. Historians, social workers, students of international affairs will find it has important bearing on their fields of interest. For this is the thousand years in which Christianity spread to northern Europe and lost ground in Africa, Palestine and the East, a thousand years of uncertainty but of vital importance to us. $3.50

Lowrie, Walter KIERKEGAARD Oxford

Some years ago I used to hear Walter Lowrie at the American Cathedral in Paris, later he was moved to Florence and Rome. Among all the great scholars and preachers he stood out as a man of personality with a genius for interesting others in his own enthusiasms. His rare charm permeates this book although he has let Kierkegaard (pronounced Kerkegor) tell his own story adding only excerpts from his writings and explanations where necessary. In case you are asked (and have forgotten *Kierkegaard: His Life and Thought* by E. L. Allen published by Harper 1937 - see April 1st bulletin, 1937) This is an autobiographical-biography-journal of the man who seems likely to have been the motivating power behind the theology of crisis, the Barthian and Brunner schools of thought, one of the most prolific writers the ranks of philosophy and theology have ever known. In European countries, and especially Germany, a whole literature has grown up about this clever, morose and extremely witty, though often caustic Dane. To date, we have heard little of this strange but

influential thinker. But the field is opening up and there will certainly be a wide sale for this book among students, theologians, philosophers and laymen who enjoy intellectual treats. But *you* will have to take the lead and introduce him. $10.00

Maritain, Jacques THE DEGREES OF KNOWLEDGE Scribner

The shorter works of Jacques Maritain have been so enthusiastically received that this, his first long work, should be even more welcome. Undoubtedly one of the greatest living philosophers this book will have a wide field. Philosophers and theologians cannot miss it and to add to its importance it bears the *imprimatur* so that Catholics as well as Protestants will consider it required reading. While it is not easy reading it is amazing how clearly the author cuts his way through the maze of problems and subjects that face him. Equally at home in the field of science or theology, in physics or mysticism, mathematics or philosophy, we find ourselves following our surefooted guide with an amazing but delightful sense of achievement. Tell your customers honestly this is a book to own, read, reread and study, not to be digested in one reading from a library. It is more than $6.00's worth. It contains a lifetime of knowledge. $6.00

Martindale, C. C., S.J. OUR BLESSED LADY Sheed & Ward

It is hard to give any idea of the information embodied in this book without giving the impression of the Britannica. Yet it all goes into 292 large typed pages, and, while we think of it, we doff our hats to Sheed & Ward for their excellent type, soft cream paper, and the attractive format of their books. This is a biography of our Lady in art, as an influence over men and women as well as other religions, a visit to the world's famous shrines, a survey of Bible women. All this and lots more written in the inimitable "Martindale" style. For all Catholics "yes!" but also for all Protestants who would correct the many false conceptions held by non-Catholics as to the place of Mary, the mother of *their* Jesus, too. $2.50

Martindale, C. C., S.J. DOES GOD MATTER FOR ME? Sheed & Ward

This is a pertinent title for it is a pertinent question. Like the small patient who, when told that Easter was a time of joyous resurrection, looked at his nurse and said "You'd never know it to look at her" we meet so many who live as though nothing mattered. Father Martindale as usual knows these people, - those who argue God is not a personal God, those who admit a need for God as history testifies man always has. He shows myriad ways the latter may attain faith in God, things of which he can be certain, excellent arguments that lead to the possession of such sureness. Then on to the various aspects of God -- God all powerful, God our Savior, God our Educator, God our Leader, the Social God and the Praying God. Every chapter is rich in the simple faith that comes from great wisdom and deep spiritual experience, the kind of spirituality that in its simple honesty is contagious. Catholic, Protestant or Jew could profit from this little book. $2.00

Mathews, Basil THE WORLD IN WHICH JESUS LIVED Abingdon

As simple as its title, as clear as Dr. Mathews always is, this small book will be found extremely helpful by the clergy and bible students and would throw a vastly different light on many difficult passages if critics would read it and try to understand Jesus' true meaning. For to glean truly His meaning one must know His country, His towns, His people, their ways of speaking, modes of living and working.

To grasp the point of His parables one must know those at whom they were aimed and as one reads this book one begins to "see" more clearly not only Jesus' world but its counterpart today. This is a book that would be most welcome as a Bon Voyage gift for anyone taking a Mediterranean cruise this summer. $1.50

Mercer, Samuel A. B. OUR BIBLE Morehouse-Gorham
Easton, Burton Scott

This is The Christian Nurture Series Senior Manual prepared for The Religious Education Department of the Episcopal Church. It is an excellent course of study on the Bible for any denomination which wants discussion topics, maps, reference books, etc. It will open many interesting sidelines of study and any wide awake teacher should be able to plan a fascinating year's study in it. $1.25

Moran, Thomas INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE Sheed & Ward

"Introduction" is used here in its technical sense for while this book is for the beginner it is not "little steps for little feet" by a long shot. It is at once a scholarly and complete history of the sources, Jewish, Christian and Pagan, a critical examination of the books and their place in the Canon packed into an amazingly compact book. Rarely do we find an author with such a gift for condensation. A valuable text on a subject that is claiming wide attention. $2.50

Richardson, C. C. THE CHURCH THROUGH THE CENTURIES Scribner

Unlike most titles this really summarizes the book. The author, an Englishman, now at Union Theological Seminary in New York, has done a thoroughly scholarly piece of work with a very nice imagination. It is not a long drawn out history of the church but a vital and living narrative, full of interesting anecdotes, word pictures and glimpses into the various countries, nations and individuals involved in the progress of Christianity as the Church spread across the world. Century after century opens up before us as we read; the inner meaning of the Church unfolds and the message deepens as it takes problem after problem in its stride. The most important contribution lies in Mr. Richardson's emphasis on the eternal rather than the transient, the organism not the organization. $2.50

Schloerb, Rolland W. GOD IN OUR LIVES: WHAT DOES GOD MEAN TO US TODAY? Harper

From a dearth of religious books we are now so overstocked that we have become extremely "pickey." A good simple book such as this would have probably thrilled us a few years ago but it just misses fire to our mind today. The illustrations have been used so long -- I remember the "old gray-bearded idea of God" and the "oblong blur" some fifteen years ago and it gives a flavor of repetition and out-modedness to the book. It may go at summer conferences where it will be news to novices.
$1.50

Slattery, Margaret THY KINGDOM COME...BUT NOT NOW Harper

A sort of peep show into the less pretty corners of our modern world -- not just the poor in earthly goods, but the poor in spirit are caught in the glare of Miss Slattery's spotlight. The rich who feel the poor are not entitled to a car, the rich who drink and should not drive their cars, miners' wives and social queens, summer resorts and tenements, subways and long sleek black limousines, charwomen's children sweltering at night, the children of the rich farmed out while their parents throw parties, sent to boarding schools while parents take cures. She has toured the length and breadth of this country speaking to as widely varied audiences, listening to the problems of literally thousands at meetings and conferences. She knows all about the large majority who glibly repeat "Thy Kingdom Come" but hasten to add under their breath "but not now." $1.50

Sperry, Willard L. WE PROPHESY IN PART Harper

The Lyman Beeder Lectures at Yale form an important 66 year old foundation. The greatest preachers of this country and Europe have been selected for this honor. Dean Sperry of the Harvard Divinity School will be listened to by the clergy with keen interest for he is a scholar of great ability and a preacher of merit. His parish experience and contact with his students enables him to understand the modern clergyman and the parishioners to whom he preaches. $2.00

Swift, Arthur L., Jr. NEW FRONTIERS OF RELIGION Macmillan

It is strange that two men in the same seminary should publish books so closely allied without planning it. (See report on page 239). Whether Messrs. Richardson and Swift were conscious of the dove-tailing of their respective books we don't know, yet they do. In certain spots they overlap, such as in the history and background, yet on the whole this takes up where the other leaves off - where it went into the history this gives the social and psychological causes and then launches out into the new frontiers awaiting capture in extremely modern fashion -- child study, psychiatry, community efforts, etc. It belongs definitely to the "educational group." The social and welfare exponents will be keen on it. Unfortunately, comparatively few churches outside of New York have grown beond the "dream" stage on this kind of religious education. $2.00

Ward, Maisie THE OXFORD GROUPS Sheed & Ward

Miss Ward feels the Oxford groups are more tolerant of the Roman Church than the average Protestant gathering. She is more tolerant than the average Romanist, but one feels even here that her tolerance is not for the value of the group, as an impartial observer, but as the opportunist who sees a chance of increasing her own party. She is as fair as one can be with an outsider's knowledge of the movement. $ .50